

Kennebunkport Fire Department

SOG 16

WATER RESCUE

April 2008

1. The boundaries for water rescue in CityKennebunkport will be between and including the PlaceNameKennebunk PlaceTypeRiver and placePlaceNameGoose PlaceNameRocks PlaceTypeBeach, up to approximately ½ mile offshore, or in a mutual aid capacity to other jurisdictions as may be requested by other agencies and as weather and sea conditions permit.
2. The dispatcher shall tone out KEMS to respond and stage at or near the scene of any water rescue call.
3. A KPFD officer will set up a Shore Command for all water rescue calls.
4. The Incident Commander (Shore Command) will have sole discretion in the selection of the officer (or firefighter) in charge of a boat crew and the crew of each boat.
5. The officer (or firefighter) in charge of a rescue boat will ensure that all crew members and other passengers (including KEMS and Police Department personnel or rescued subjects) will wear a USCG approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) at all times during boat operations. A suitable PFD may include a life jacket, flotation work suit, water rescue suit, or flotation jacket.
6. All KPFD shore personnel assisting in boat rescue calls are required to wear a PFD in potentially hazardous situations including, but not limited to directly assisting in the launching of a boat from the Cape Porpoise Pier, beach launching in heavy surf conditions or operating in any elevated position along the shore; or as may be directed by the Incident Commander.
7. The placeCityKennebunkport Fire Department is not responsible for damage or loss to any personal item belonging to a KPFD member that may occur during boat rescue operations, whether that member is serving in either a shore capacity or as a member of a boat crew. All KPFD members should secure personal items other than prescription eyeglasses (wallets, jewelry, shoes, cellular telephones, etc.) in their POV, any fire apparatus or with another member prior to engaging in boat rescue operations.
8. Kennebunkport Fire Department personnel who choose to respond to or assist in a boat rescue call or other boat operations in a privately owned vessel do so entirely at their own risk and as a private citizen, unless specifically directed by the Incident Commander. The Kennebunkport Fire Department is not responsible for any damage or loss to the privately owned vessel or injury or death to the KPFD member or other occupants of a privately owned vessel responding without specific authorization.